

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2902

ANSWERED ON:09.08.2001

PROTECTION OF CAVE PAINTINGS AND TAMIL BRAHMI INSCRIPTIONS

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Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have any plans to protect the early cave paintings and Tamil Brahmi inscriptions found in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details of locations where these cave paintings and Tamil Brahmi inscriptions are found in Tamil Nadu so far;
- (c) whether the ASI have made any recent study on the early Tamil Brahmi inscriptions found in Tamil Nadu; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR)

(a)&(b) The following monuments with Tamil Brahmi inscriptions are already protected by the Archaeological Survey of India :-

1. Natural Cavern with stone beds and Brahmi and old Tamil inscriptions called Eladipattam, Sittannavasal, Pudukkottai District.
2. Panchapandava bed, Jain statue and Brahmi and Vatteluttu inscriptions, Keelayur-Kilavalavu, Madurai District.
3. Rock-cut cave and inscriptions, Thiruparankundram, Madurai District
4. Boulder stone bed and Brahmi inscriptions on the hill and rock-cut temple with inscriptions at the foot of the hill, Kunnakudi, Sivaganga District

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.